



# **FACT SHEET**

## **U.S. Air Force Reserve**

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### **Southern Aire**

Southern Aire is a unique element of the Band of the United States Air Force Reserve. In 1999 the group began to evolve in conjunction with the Chamber Recital Series featuring a bagpiper and guitar. Over time, members of the Pipe Band were learning more Celtic instruments such as Irish flute, tin whistles, Irish drums, and Scottish small pipes. These musicians took the initiative and learned how to perform and excel on multiple instruments making the group more versatile and successful.

The use of these rare instruments makes Southern Aire a welcome commodity for music, music appreciation, and other educational programs. In addition to performing traditional Irish music, the group adds bass guitar, keyboard, and drum set to perform Celtic Rock and expand its musical appeal. In June 2002 Southern Aire made its official debut during a Concert Band tour held in conjunction with the Great American Brass Band Festival.

All members of Southern Aire are professional Air Force musicians working in support of Air Force and Air Force Reserve recruiting and community relations objectives.